

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 NICOSI 00692 141719Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----104143 141722Z /43

P R 141640Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7443
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USMISSION USNATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L NICOSIA 0692

EXDIS

BRUSSELS FOR USEEC

E.O. 11652: XGDS-2
TAGS: PGOV, CY
SUBJECT: TOUR D'HORIZON WITH NEW GREEK CYPRIOT FOREIGN MINISTER

REF: (A) NICOSIA 0563 (NOTAL), (B) STATE 059138,
(C) STATE 057733,, (D) NICOSIA 0671 (NOTAL),
(E) STATE 064266

1. ON MARCH 14, I WAS ASKED TO CALL ON GOC'S NEW FONMIN
NICOS ROLANDIS, WHO HAD BEEN SWORN IN MARCH 9. THE
MEETING WAS ONLY HALF AN HOUR, BUT WE WERE ALREADY AWARE
OF EACH OTHER'S VIEWS (REF A) AND WERE ABLE TO COVER A
NUMBER OF SUBJECTS.

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2. ROLANDIS SAID PRESIDENT KYPRIANOU HOPES FOR BETTER
BUT EXPECTS TURKISH CYPRIOT PROPOSALS ON CONSTITUTION
AND TERRITORY TO BE SUCH AS TO REQUIRE REJECTION. IN
THAT CASE, KYPRIANOU LOOKS TO A SERIOUS NEGOTIATION BEING
LAUNCHED LATER IN 1978 BY A MEETING BETWEEN HIM
AND ECEVIT. WHENEVER REAL NEGOTIATION IS IN PROSPECT,

KYPRIANOU WILL PROBABLY DITCH CURRENT NEGOTIATOR PAPADOPOULOS IN FAVOR OF A NEW LEVEL OF NEGOTIATION HEADED BY HOUSE PRESIDENT MICHAELIDES TO REPRESENT THE GOVERNMENT SIDE. I OBJECTED TO THIS REASONING ON TWO GROUNDS. IT IS TO BE EXPECTED GOC WILL FIND MUCH TO CRITICIZE IN WHATEVER TURKISH PROPOSALS ARE PRESENTED, BUT THEY SHOULD BE VIEWED AS A BEGINNING AND AN OPPORTUNITY NOT BE LOST, NOT DISMISSED BEFOREHAND AS GOC NOW SEEMS DISPOSED TO DO. PINNING HOPES ON A KYPRIANOU-ECEVIT MEETING IS PROBABLY ILLUSORY. ECEVIT BELIEVES KYPRIANOU'S PROPER COLLOCUTOR IS DENKTASH, AND HE WILL BE WARY OF UNDERMINING THE LATTER'S POSITION.

3. TO GIVE ROLANDIS THE MOST UP TO DATE VIEW OF US ATTITUDES IN THIS SITUATION AND REACTION TO KYPRIANOU'S INAUGURAL STATEMENT, I REVIEWED COUNSELOR NIMETZ'S MARCH 6 CONVERSATION WITH CYPRIOT AMBASSADOR DIMITRIOU (REF B). ROLANDIS WAS GRATEFUL SINCE (INDICATIVELY ?) HE WAS AWARE THAT KYPRIANOU HAD RECEIVED A MESSAGE FROM DIMITRIOU BUT DID NOT KNOW ITS CONTENTS.

4. BASED ON REF C, I GAVE ROLANDIS A PIECE OF PAPER WITH BACKGROUND OF THE UNFICYP CONTRIBUTION ISSUE AND A REQUEST FOR FURTHER GOC FOLLOW-UP.

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5. ON THE STATIONS AGREEMENT, I SUGGESTED ROLANDIS HAVE HIMSELF BRIEFED BY HIS SUBORDINATES AND MINFIN PATSALIDES, BUT NOTED FURTHER ACTION WAS NOT NEEDED BY GOC AT THIS TIME AS BALL WAS IN USG COURT.

6. FINALLY, I GAVE ROLANDIS TEXTS OF THE VARIOUS STATEMENTS AND EXCHANGES OF THE PAST FEW DAYS RELATING TO DCA AND LINKAGE, CULMINATING WITH DEPT PRESS SPOKESMAN'S MARCH 13 REMARDS (REF E).

7. MY VERY CORDIAL FIRST AND LAST OFFICIAL MEETING WITH ROLANDIS ENDED WITH ASSURANCES OF MUTUAL GOODWILL, COOPERATION, AND CANDOR. ROLANDIS NOTED THIS WOULD BE NEEDED IN THE WEEKS AHEAD, AS GOC WAS FRANKLY DETERMINED TO USE EVERY MEANS AT ITS DISPOSAL, DIPLOMATIC, WITH GREECE, WITH THE AMERICAN PUBLIC AND THE US CONGRESS TO BLOCK FOR AS LONG AS POSSIBLE ANY LIFTING OF THE EMBARGO ON ARMS TO TURKEY.
CRAWFORD

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